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The relief described hereinbelow is SO ORDERED.

Signed October 18, 2022.

Ronald B. King
United States Bankruptcy Judge

# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS SAN ANTONIO DIVISION

IN RE:

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DEEPROOT CAPITAL MANAGEMENT,
LLC, ET AL.,

BANKRUPTCY NO. 21-51523-MMP

BEAD CASE

DEBTORS.

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JOINTLY ADMINISTERED

# AGREED CONFIDENTIALITY AND PROTECTIVE ORDER BY AND BETWEEN CHAPTER 7 TRUSTEE AND CYCLADIC, LLC, CYCLADIC INTERNATIONAL, LLC, AND THOMAS ANDREW

This Confidentiality and Protective Order (the "**Order**") is by and between John Patrick Lowe, Chapter 7 Trustee ("**Trustee**") for the Jointly Administered Chapter 7 Bankruptcy Estates of In Re: Policy Services, Inc. 21-51513, In Re: Wizard Mode Media, LLC, 21-51514, In Re: deeproot Pinball LLC, 21-51515, In Re: deeproot Growth Runs Deep Fund, LLC, 21-51516, In

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The jointly administered chapter 7 cases, along with their respective case numbers and the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: In Re: Policy Services, Inc. 21-51513 (2864), In Re: Wizard Mode Media, LLC, 21-51514 (3205), In Re: deeproot Pinball LLC, 21-51515 (0320), In Re: deeproot Growth Runs Deep Fund, LLC, 21-51516 (8046), In Re: deeproot 575 Fund, LLC, 21-51517 (9404), In Re: deeproot 3 Year Bonus Income Debenture Fund, LLC, 21-51518 (7731), In Re: deeproot Bonus Growth 5 Year Debenture Fund, LLC, 21-51519 (9661), In Re: deeproot Tech LLC, 21-51520 (9043), In Re: deeproot Funds LLC, 21-51521 (9404), In Re: deeproot Studios LLC, 21-51522 (6283), and In Re: deeproot Capital Management, LLC, 21-51523 (2638), each a "Bankruptcy Estate" and collectively, the "Bankruptcy Estates".

Re: deeproot 575 Fund, LLC, 21-51517, In Re: deeproot 3 Year Bonus Income Debenture Fund, LLC, 21-51518, In Re: deeproot Bonus Growth 5 Year Debenture Fund, LLC, 21-51519, In Re: deeproot Tech LLC, 21-51520, In Re: deeproot Funds LLC, 21-51521, In Re: deeproot Studios LLC, 21-51522, and In Re: deeproot Capital Management, LLC, 21-51523 (each a "Bankruptcy Estate" and collectively, the "Bankruptcy Estates"); and Cycladic, LLC ("Cycladic"), Cycladic International, LLC ("Cycladic International") and Thomas Andrew ("Andrew"). Cycladic, Cycladic International and Andrew are collectively referred to herein as the "Cycladic Parties", and the Trustee and the Cycladic Parties are collectively referred to herein as the "Parties".

Each of the Parties has carefully considered this Order and agrees to be bound by this Order as it relates to discovery material produced by the Cycladic Parties to the Trustee, or by any other person or entity that the Cycladic Parties designate as "Classified Information," in connection with any of the above-listed chapter 7 bankruptcy cases (the "Bankruptcy Cases") or any lawsuit or adversary proceeding involving any of the Bankruptcy Estates (the "Adversaries" and together with the Bankruptcy Cases, the "Legal Proceeding"), as follows:

#### 1. Classified Information

"Classified Information" means any information of any type, kind, or character that is designated as "Confidential" or "For Counsel Only" (or "Attorneys Eyes Only") by any of the supplying or receiving persons, whether it be a document, information contained in a document, information revealed during a deposition, information revealed in an interrogatory answer, or otherwise.

## 2. Qualified Persons

"Qualified Persons" means:

- a. For "For Counsel Only" information:
  - i. retained counsel for the Parties to this Order and their respective staff;
  - ii. actual or potential independent experts or consultants (and their administrative or clerical staff) engaged in connection with this Legal

Proceeding (which shall not include the current employees, officers, members, or agents of parties or affiliates of parties) who, prior to any disclosure of Classified Information to such person, have been designated in writing by notice to all counsel and have signed a document agreeing to be bound by the terms of this Order (such signed document to be maintained by the attorney retaining such person); and

iii. the Court and its staff and any other tribunal or dispute resolution officer duly appointed or assigned in connection with this Legal Proceeding.

### b. For "Confidential" information:

- i. the persons identified in subparagraph 2(a);
- ii. the party, if a natural person;
- iii. if the party is an entity, such officers or employees of the party who are actively involved in the prosecution or defense of this case who, prior to any disclosure of Confidential information to such person, have been designated in writing by notice to all counsel and have signed a document agreeing to be bound by the terms of this Order (such signed document to be maintained by the attorney designating such person);
- iv. Legal Proceeding vendors, court reporters, and other Legal Proceeding support personnel; and
- v. any person who was an author, addressee, or intended and/or authorized recipient of the Confidential information and who agrees to keep the information confidential, provided that such persons may see and use the Confidential information but not retain a copy.
- c. Such other person as the Court may designate after notice and an opportunity to be heard.

# 3. Designation Criteria

- a. *Non-Classified Information*. Classified Information shall not include information that either:
  - i. is in the public domain at the time of disclosure, as evidenced by a written document;
  - ii. becomes part of the public domain through no fault of the recipient, as evidenced by a written document;

- iii. the receiving party can show by written document was in its rightful and lawful possession at the time of disclosure; or
- iv. lawfully comes into the recipient's possession subsequent to the time of disclosure from another source without restriction as to disclosure, provided such third party has the right to make the disclosure to the receiving party.
- b. *Classified Information*. A party shall designate as Classified Information only such information that the party in good faith believes in fact is confidential. Information that is generally available to the public, such as public filings, catalogues, advertising materials, and the like, shall not be designated as Classified.

Information and documents that may be designated as Classified Information include, but are not limited to, trade secrets, confidential or proprietary financial information, operational data, business plans, and competitive analyses, personnel files, personal information that is protected by law, scandalous or defamatory matter, and other sensitive information that, if not restricted as set forth in this Agreement, may subject the producing or disclosing person to competitive or financial injury and/or potential legal liability to third parties.

Correspondence and other communications between the parties or with nonparties may be designated as Classified Information if the communication was made with the understanding or reasonable expectation that the information would not become generally available to the public.

- c. For Counsel Only. The designation "For Counsel Only" shall be reserved for information that is believed to be unknown to the opposing party or parties, or any of the employees of a corporate party. For purposes of this Order, For Counsel Only information includes, but is not limited to, product formula information, design information, non-public financial information, pricing information, customer identification data, and certain study methodologies.
- d. *Ultra-Sensitive Information*. At this point, the parties do not anticipate the need for higher levels of confidentiality as to ultra-sensitive documents and/or information. However, in the event that a court orders that ultra-sensitive documents and/or information be produced, the parties will negotiate and ask the Court to enter an ultra-sensitive information protocol in advance of production to further protect such information.

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## 4. Use of Classified Information

All Classified Information provided by any party or non-party in the course of this Legal Proceeding shall be used solely for the purpose of preparation, trial, and appeal of this Legal Proceeding and for no other purpose, and shall not be disclosed except in accordance with the terms hereof.

# 5. Marking of Documents

Documents provided in this Legal Proceeding may be designated by the producing person or by any Party as Classified Information by marking each page of the documents so designated with a stamp indicating that the information is "Confidential" or "For Counsel Only" (or "Attorneys Eyes Only"). In lieu of marking the original of a document, if the original is not provided, the designating party may mark the copies that are provided. Originals shall be preserved for inspection.

# 6. Disclosure at Depositions

Information disclosed at (a) the deposition of a party or one of its present or former officers, directors, employees, agents, consultants, representatives, or independent experts retained by counsel for the purpose of this Legal Proceeding, or (b) the deposition of a non-party may be designated by any party as Classified Information by indicating on the record at the deposition that the testimony is Confidential or For Counsel Only and is subject to the provisions of this Order.

Any Party also may designate information disclosed at a deposition as Classified Information by notifying all parties in writing within 30 days of receipt of the transcript of the specific pages and lines of the transcript that should be treated as Classified Information thereafter. Each Party shall attach a copy of each such written notice to the face of the transcript and each copy thereof in that party's possession, custody, or control. All deposition transcripts shall be treated as For Counsel Only for a period of 30 days after initial receipt of the transcript.

To the extent possible, the court reporter shall segregate into separate transcripts information designated as Classified Information with blank, consecutively numbered pages being

provided in a non-designated main transcript. The separate transcript containing Classified Information shall have page numbers that correspond to the blank pages in the main transcript.

Counsel for a party or a non-party witness shall have the right to exclude from depositions any person who is not authorized to receive Classified Information pursuant to this Agreement, but such right of exclusion shall be applicable only during periods of examination or testimony during which Classified Information is being used or discussed.

## 7. Disclosure to Qualified Persons

- a. *To Whom.* Classified Information shall not be disclosed or made available by the receiving party to persons other than Qualified Persons except as necessary to comply with applicable law or the valid order of a court of competent jurisdiction; *provided*, *however*, that in the event of a disclosure compelled by law or court order, the receiving party will so notify the producing party as promptly as practicable (if at all possible, prior to making such disclosure) and shall seek a protective order or confidential treatment of such information in a manner consistent with the terms of this Order. Information designated as For Counsel Only shall be restricted in circulation to Qualified Persons described in subparagraph 2(a).
- b. Retention of Copies During this Legal Proceeding. Copies of For Counsel Only information shall be maintained only in the offices of outside counsel for the receiving party and, to the extent supplied to experts described in subparagraph 2(a)(ii), in the offices of those experts. Any documents produced in this Legal Proceeding, regardless of classification, that are provided to Qualified Persons shall be maintained only at the office of such Qualified Person and only necessary working copies of any such documents shall be made. Copies of documents and exhibits containing Classified Information may be prepared by independent copy services, printers, or illustrators for the purpose of this Legal Proceeding.
- c. Each Party's outside counsel shall maintain a log of all copies of For Counsel Only documents that are delivered to Qualified Persons.

#### 8. **Unintentional Disclosures**

Documents unintentionally produced without designation as Classified Information later may be designated and shall be treated as Classified Information from the date written notice of the designation is provided to the receiving party.

If a receiving party learns of any unauthorized disclosure of Confidential information and/or For Counsel Only information, the party shall immediately upon learning of such disclosure inform the producing party of all pertinent facts relating to such disclosure and shall make all reasonable efforts to prevent disclosure by each unauthorized person who received such information.

#### 9. **Documents Produced for Inspection Prior to Designation**

In the event documents are produced for inspection prior to designation, the documents shall be treated as For Counsel Only during inspection. At the time of copying for the receiving parties, Classified Information shall be marked prominently "Confidential" or "For Counsel Only" (or "Attorneys Eyes Only") by the producing party.

#### 10. **Consent to Disclosure and Use in Examination**

Nothing in this Order shall prevent disclosure beyond the terms of this Order if each party designating the information as Classified Information consents to such disclosure or if the Court, after notice to all affected parties and non-parties, orders such disclosure. Nor shall anything in this Order prevent any counsel of record from utilizing Classified Information in the examination or cross-examination of any person who is indicated on the document as being an author, source, or recipient of the Classified Information, irrespective of which party produced such information.

#### 11. **Challenging the Designation**

a. Classified Information. A party shall not be obligated to challenge the propriety of a designation of Classified Information at the time such designation is made, and a failure to do so shall not preclude a subsequent challenge to the designation. In the event that any party to this

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Legal Proceeding disagrees at any stage of these proceedings with the designation of any information as Classified Information, the parties shall first try to resolve the dispute in good faith on an informal basis, such as by production of redacted copies. If the dispute cannot be resolved, the objecting party may invoke this Order by objecting in writing to the party who designated the document or information as Classified Information. The designating party shall then have 14 days within which to move the Court for an order preserving the designated status of the disputed information and may submit the disputed information to the Court for *in camera* review. The disputed information shall remain Classified Information unless and until the Court orders otherwise. Failure to move for an order shall constitute a termination of the status of such item as Classified Information.

b. Qualified Persons. In the event that any party in good faith disagrees with the designation of a person as a Qualified Person or the disclosure of particular Classified Information to such person, the Parties shall first try to resolve the dispute in good faith on an informal basis. If the dispute cannot be resolved, the objecting party shall have 14 days from the date of the designation (or, in the event particular Classified Information is requested subsequent to the designation of the Qualified Person, 14 days from service of the request) within which to move the Court for an order denying the disposed person (a) status as a Qualified Person, or (b) access to particular Classified Information. The objecting person shall have the burden of demonstrating that disclosure to the disputed person would expose the objecting party to the risk of serious harm. Upon the timely filing of such a motion, no disclosure of Classified Information shall be made to the disputed person unless and until the Court enters an order preserving the designation.

## 12. Manner of Use in Proceedings

In the event a party wishes to use any Classified Information in affidavits, declarations, briefs, memoranda of law, or other papers filed in this Legal Proceeding, the party shall do one of the following: (1) with the consent of the producing party, file only a redacted copy of the

information; (2) where appropriate (e.g., in connection with discovery and evidentiary motions) provide the information solely for in camera review; or (3) file such information under seal with the Court consistent with the sealing requirements of the Court. To the extent the Trustee wishes to use any Classified Information in any Adversaries that do not include the Cycladic Parties as a party, the Trustee shall provide written notice to the Cycladic Parties at least 5 days prior to the use of any such Classified Information.

#### 13. **Filing Under Seal**

The Clerk of Court shall be directed to maintain under seal all documents, transcripts of deposition testimony, answers to interrogatories, admissions, and other papers filed under seal in this Legal Proceeding that have been designated, in whole or in part, as Classified Information by any party to this Legal Proceeding consistent with the sealing requirements of the Court.

#### 14. **Return of Documents**

Within 120 days after conclusion of this Legal Proceeding and any appeal related to it, any Classified Information, all reproductions of such information, and any notes, summaries, or descriptions of such information in the possession of any of the persons specified in paragraph 2 (except subparagraph 2(a)(iii)) shall be returned to the producing party upon request or otherwise destroyed, except as the Court may otherwise order or to the extent such information has been used as evidence at any trial or hearing. Notwithstanding this obligation to return or destroy information, counsel may retain attorney work product, including document indices, so long as that work product does not duplicate verbatim substantial portions of the text of any Classified Information.

#### 15. **Ongoing Obligations**

Insofar as the provisions of this Order, or any other protective orders entered in this Legal Proceeding, restrict the communication and use of the information protected by it, such provisions shall continue to be binding after the conclusion of this Legal Proceeding, except that (a) there

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shall be no restriction on documents that are used as exhibits in open court unless such exhibits were filed under seal, and (b) a party may seek the written permission of the producing party or order of the Court with respect to dissolution or modification of this Order or any other protective order.

#### 16. Advice to Clients

This Order shall not bar any attorney in the course of rendering advice to such attorney's client with respect to this Legal Proceeding from conveying to any party client the attorney's evaluation in a general way of Classified Information produced or exchanged under the terms of this Order; provided, however, that in rendering such advice and otherwise communicating with the client, the attorney shall not disclose the specific contents of any Classified Information produced by another party if such disclosure would be contrary to the terms of this Order.

# 17. Duty to Ensure Compliance

Any party designating any person as a Qualified Person shall have the duty to reasonably ensure that such person observes the terms of this Order and shall be jointly responsible upon breach of such duty for the failure of such person to observe the terms of this Order.

#### 18. Waiver

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Evidence 502, neither the attorney-client privilege nor work product protection is waived by disclosure connected with this Legal Proceeding.

## 19. Modification and Exceptions

The Parties may, by written stipulation, provide for exceptions to this Order and any party may seek to modify this Order with the consent of all Parties.

- **20.** This Order is effective as of the date it is entered.
- **21.** The Court shall retain jurisdiction to enforce and interpret this Order, along with any disputes related thereto.

# # #

#### **AGREED:**

Date September 23, 2022

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# By:/s/ W. Drew Mallender

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ATTORNEYS FOR JOHN PATRICK LOWE, CHAPTER 7 TRUSTEE

## **AGREED:**

Date: September 23, 2022

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# By:/s/ Stephen J. Humeniuk

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ATTORNEYS FOR CYCLADIC, LLC, CYCLADIC INTERNATIONAL, LLC, AND THOMAS ANDREW